



General Assembly

January Session, 2011

Committee Bill No. 5432

LCO No. 4650

04650HB05432HS_

Referred to Committee on Human Services

Introduced by:
(HS)

***AN ACT CONCERNING LIMITS ON SANCTIONS UNDER THE
TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES PROGRAM.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (b) of section 17b-688c of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
3 *July 1, 2011*):

4 (b) In no event shall temporary family assistance be granted to an
5 applicant for such assistance, who is not exempt from participation in
6 the employment services program, prior to the applicant's attendance
7 at an initial scheduled employment services assessment interview and
8 participation in the development of an employment services plan. The
9 Department of Social Services shall not delay temporary family
10 assistance to an applicant in cases where the department schedules the
11 initial employment services assessment interview more than ten
12 business days after the date on which application for assistance is
13 made, or in cases where the Labor Department does not complete an
14 employment services plan for the benefit of the applicant within ten
15 business days of the date on which the applicant attends an
16 employment services assessment interview. The Commissioner of

17 Social Services shall refer any applicant denied temporary family
18 assistance, who may be in need of emergency benefits, to other
19 services offered by the Department of Social Services or community
20 services that may be available to such applicant. The Department of
21 Social Services shall reduce the benefits awarded to a family under the
22 temporary family assistance program when a member of the family
23 who is required to participate in employment services fails to comply
24 with an employment services requirement without good cause. The
25 first instance of noncompliance with an employment services
26 requirement shall result in a twenty-five per cent reduction of such
27 benefits [for three consecutive months] until the family member
28 complies with the employment services requirements. The second
29 instance of noncompliance with such requirement shall result in a
30 thirty-five per cent reduction of such benefits [for three consecutive
31 months] until the family member complies with the employment
32 services requirements. A third or subsequent instance of
33 noncompliance with such requirement shall result in [the termination
34 of such benefits for three consecutive months] a fifty per cent reduction
35 of such benefits until the family member complies with the
36 employment services requirements. [If only one member of a family is
37 eligible for temporary family assistance and such member fails to
38 comply with an employment services requirement, the department
39 shall terminate all benefits of such family for three consecutive
40 months.] Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, the
41 department shall [terminate the] reduce by fifty per cent benefits
42 awarded to a family under the temporary family assistance program if
43 a member of the family who is not exempt from the twenty-one-month
44 time limit specified in subsection (a) of section 17b-112 fails, without
45 good cause, to: (1) Attend any scheduled assessment appointment or
46 interview relating to the establishment of an employment services
47 plan, except that such individual's full benefits shall be reinstated if the
48 individual attends a subsequently scheduled appointment or interview
49 within thirty days of the date on which the department has issued
50 notification to the individual that benefits have been terminated, or (2)

51 comply with an employment services requirement during a six-month
52 extension of benefits. [Any individual who fails to comply with the
53 provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection may submit a new
54 application for such benefits at any time after termination of benefits.]

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	July 1, 2011	17b-688c(b)
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Statement of Purpose:

To eliminate termination of family benefits under the temporary assistance for needy families program.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

Co-Sponsors: REP. WALKER, 93rd Dist.; SEN. HARP, 10th Dist.
REP. HOLDER-WINFIELD, 94th Dist.

H.B. 5432